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Letter from the Editors

Datum

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DATUM IS NOT ABOUT THE PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE OF ARCHITECTURE.

It is instead about the personal engagement we have with each other. Discussing, defending and encouraging difficult conversations; allowing us as a group, as well as individuals, to grow in our belief about what Architecture is capable of. And what we are capable of. We are a sample set of the profession in all of our multiplicity, and we chose to come together to create something. And we chose to be open to those with which we might disagree. We struggle with each other because we know we have created a better understanding of our education and the profession. We are social people creating a social space; hoping someday to affect and improve that space that we all inhabit.

Our greatest asset is therefore the variety of this issue in its singular free flowing structure uninhibited by divisions. This way the articles and projects can stand as an individual in the collection but can also relate to and communicate with the thoughts and ideas surrounding it; creating a discussion. We hope you will understand that we are trying to engage that which we do not fully understand. We are asking questions, creating expectations of ourselves, and trying to see the potential in the world around us. The myriad of solutions presented here were not solely done by students of Architecture. However, we see the architecture they have created and the spaces they have affected.

Architecture is apart of who we are. We see it in various forms so that, as people passionate about art and design, we can influence each other in the culture we proliferate through our work. Only through participating with and engaging those in the rest of the art and design community, society at large, and that which we don't understand can we make architecture that can claim to be beautiful and life-changing.

It can never just be about the professional practice of whatever it is we chose to do. Instead it is the implication of our work, on our social and cultural world, that makes our work relevant and worth carrying out.

Datum is a point of departure. We hope that you enjoy.

KEEP DOING.

Love, Megen